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## Colombia rebels set date to free French journalist

BOGOTA (AFP) - The leftist Colombian guerrilla group FARC has said it will free on Wednesday a French journalist taken prisoner nearly a month ago.

A correspondent for France 24 TV, 35-year-old Romeo Langlois was captured by the FARC in April during an attack on a Colombian army unit that he had embedded with to film a

counter-drug operation.

"The coordinates of the location where Langlois will be freed will be submitted at an opportune time to the humanitarian mission composed of the ICRC, Piedad Cordoba and a French delegate," the FARC statement on Sunday said.

It said they were still waiting for details of the security protocol for the handover.



*Photo above is of some Renaissance Hotel guests who were really enjoying posing with George the boat captain who shuttled them back and forth to the private island every day. They came down from Louisiana and Alabama for the Soul Beach Festival. George is one of the many wonderful employees who are a big part of making sure the guests are happy.*

## A constellation of stellar personalities light up the nights of the Soul Beach Music Festival



*Gina Yashere visits with devoted SBF fans from Washington DC (See story on page 8-9)*

## Beryl now tropical storm, nears southeast US coast

MIAMI(AFP) - Beryl was upgraded to a tropical storm late yesterday as it plowed toward the coast of the southeastern United States, casting a shadow over the first big beach weekend of the US summer season.

"Beryl stronger. Now a tropical storm," the National Hurricane Center said in its latest advisory, with the storm about 110 miles (175 kilometers) southeast of Jacksonville, Florida.

It said the system was now packing sustained winds of 65 miles per hour and was to make landfall in northern Florida later in the day.

The forecasters said it will then turn overland into Florida and Georgia today and Tuesday before turning back to-

ward the coast and out to sea once more.

The storm was set to strike during the long Memorial Day holiday weekend in which hordes of Americans typically

head for the beaches to celebrate the beginning of the summer season.

Tropical storm warnings went up from northern Florida to South Carolina.

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## Dutch government to levy steep fine to students who have prolonged their studies!

ORANJESTAD -- Aruba is preparing for the implementation of the so-called "langstudeerboete" (fine for prolonged studies). Director of the educational department of Aruba House in Holland, Samuel Dumfries, anticipates that quite a few Aruban students will be faced with this new measure from the Dutch government. The prolonged studies fine will take effect when a student fails to complete his/her Bachelor or Masters within the time period stipulated for the degree program. In the event the study program extends beyond one year, that is one year later than it was programmed to be completed, the student will be levied a fine of 3.063 Euros! What's more, the student will also be required to pay his tuition immediately in one payment.

Right after this measure was announced by the Dutch Government, our Aruban students were immediately informed so they could be warned about the fine that would be levied. Now that the deadline, September 1st 2012, is quickly approaching, everyday we are receiving more questions from our students regarding this issue. Students want to know exactly

what would be the consequences of this measure for them, according to Dumfries. Many Aruban students have been known to change their majors after the first year. It is also true that many have great difficulty to adapt to Holland. Moving from one part of the world to another to continue one's education does have its challenges and demands much from students in particular. Unfortunately, the Dutch Government does not take this into account.

Mr. Dumfries has expressed his grave concern and have also indicated his disapproval of the measure. According to Dumfries, the "langstudeerboete" has also been introduced retroactively, going way back to 1991! In other words, the rules are being changed in "mid-flight." Hence, students are being faced with a decision that was made for them without any way to change things. That, according to Dumfries is definitely not fair! To the director of education at Aruba House, the situation is not realistic, nor feasible. And, the government of Aruba can never pay these fines.

*Continued on page 3*

## Interval International recognizes Aruba-based resorts who contributed to CHTA Education Foundation



(left to right): Brian van Romondt, member relations manager, Renaissance Aruba Resort & Casino; Lillian Britten, director of operations, Marriott's Aruba Ocean Club, Marriott Vacation Club; Jan van Nes, general manager, Playa Linda Beach Resort; Neil Kolton, director, Caribbean and Florida, resort sales and service, Interval International; Astrid Muller, general manager, Caribbean Palm Village Resort; Freddy Albertus, managing director, Paradise Beach Villas; Farida Mansur, general manager, Aruba Beach Club; and Joe Najjar, general manager, La Cabana Beach & Racquet Club.

MIAMI - Interval International, a prominent worldwide provider of vacation services, recognized Aruba-based member resorts that participated in this year's fundraising initiative benefiting the Caribbean Hotel and Tourism Association (CHTA) Education Foundation.

Earlier this month, David Callaghan, Interval's vice president of resort sales and service, presented Foundation executives with a \$60,000 donation.

The shared ownership resorts in Aruba that generously contributed include the Aruba Beach Club, Caribbean Palm Village Resort, La Cabana Beach & Racquet Club, Paradise Beach Villas, Playa Linda Beach Resort, Marriott Vacation Club, and Renaissance Aruba Resort & Casino.

"The Foundation is able to provide many more scholarships as a result of the commitment of valued partners like Interval and its resort affiliates," noted Tom Pas, chairman of the CHTA Education Foundation. "We truly appreciate their efforts on behalf of higher education for Caribbean nationals."

"Aruba-based resorts have consistently supported the CHTA Education Foundation and been instrumental in the success of this worthy cause," said Callaghan. "It's very gratifying that their efforts have funded scholarships and grants for so many individuals pursuing careers in hospitality."

The CHTA Education Foundation was established in 1987 as a non-profit organization through which scholarships and special assistance would be

made available for the education of Caribbean hotel industry personnel and students pursuing careers in tourism. As part of its mission, it provides people throughout the region with an awareness of the industry's varied career opportunities, as well as technical and professional development.

*Continued on page 4*

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## ***“Connecting Hearts of Service” Seminar presented by Kiwanis Club of Young Professionals Aruba***



On Aruba there are various organizations and service clubs who do volunteer work in our community. The goal of this seminar is not to raise funds, but to show support and motivate these service clubs, so they can continue with their good works for the children in necessity on the island. There will also be the opportunity to converse and exchange ideas with other volunteer workers.

Speakers at the conference are known personalities in the community who will share their knowledge on different topics to inspire everyone present.

Topics on the agenda during the seminar are:

- Leading by example, by Audrey Lacle
- Time Management, by Roy Mezas
- Service with purpose, by

- Lisette Malmberg
- The mind of a child, by Helen Guda

The seminar will take place on May 26 from 9 a.m. to 12 noon at The Hyatt Regency Aruba. Entrance is AWG 40,- per person which will include coffee and pastries.

To register or for more information please contact Roosje Hoevertsz at 7382224 or Zanette Refunjol at 5922223.

## **Dutch government to levy steep fine...**

*Continued from page 2*

Mr. Dumfries indicated emphatically, that this is a Dutch measure over which Aruba has no influence. Nonetheless it is a situation that demands our complete attention.

Students are questioning if there is any possibility for making payment arrangements. There is no way to ascertain this, says Dumfries, it is a decision of the Dutch Government. It is definitely not in the interest of the government of Aruba, nor the student, to terminate their studies prematurely.

Students who began their studies this past year are well aware of this measure and

should be prepared for the consequences with respect to their study duration in the Netherlands. The major problem with this harsh measure is the fact that it is retroactive! As a result of this, student organizations in Holland have decided to take the Dutch Government to court on this issue. Dumfries is of the opinion that more professionals in education in Holland should oppose the measure. On July 25th the Court in The Hague will present their verdict in the case of the "fine for prolonged studies - retroactively."

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# Pointers to Ponder

Tony A.D. Green [www.people-self-development.com](http://www.people-self-development.com)



## All Aruban Homes & Businesses Gone Green: How soon?

The word is out; many Arubans have their ears perked at the development surrounding alternative energy. Everyone here is keenly interested, because they want a quick solution to the dilemma of the high monthly utility bills. The government is obviously doing its utmost to reduce the cost of the production of water and electricity, and we applaud this, but it is taking much too long!

The trend toward homes that are powered by alternative energy sources, ranging from wind turbines and solar collection cells to hydrogen fuel cells and biomass gases, is one that has gotten increased attention from the onset of this 21st century. This matter is news worthy almost on a daily basis in countries all across the globe! The world has a great need for becoming more energy independent, and not having to rely on the supply of petroleum or other fuels from unstable nations who are often hostile to us and to our interests. But even beyond this factor, we as individuals need to become more independent ourselves. We, individually, need to stop being so reliant on the energy production company that, while they seem to be working hard towards reducing the cost, nevertheless appear to have a stronghold on us when it comes to the here-to-stay "brandstofclausule" (energy surcharge).

I am of the opinion that there are clear indications based on the current trends that, inevitably, the growth of the implementation of alternative energy sources for home and commercial use will lead to the restructuring of the retail electricity market and the generation, transmission and distribution infrastructure. Our national energy production company needs to take stock of this reality, which I believe is going to take place sooner than can be expected....perhaps in the next 6 years or even earlier! Our electricity providers, WEB and ELMAR, will have to diversify their business to make up for revenues lost through household energy micro generation.

ELMAR NV will be forced to diversify and become creative to make up for the loss in revenue through household energy micro generation... hundreds of Aruban homes will be powered by alternative energy sources either on or off the grid, probably within the next 3 to 6 years!

The desire to be energy independent is very strong here in Aruba! And I predict, given the circumstances of the high cost of energy here and the favorable atmospheric conditions for either sun and/or wind generated energy, there will be an overwhelming shift to energy independence within a matter of a few years!.... ELMAR, will you be ready for the enormous drop in revenue??

In a recent study by a group



called Carbon Free in the United Kingdom, they concluded that because of the rising cost of oil and other fossil fuels and the concern about the environment and the desire to be energy independent, there will be an overwhelming shift to energy independence worldwide! This trend is already very evident in England and in many countries in the West where there is a growing increase in alternative energy-using homes. This simply means that micro generation, meeting your own home energy needs by installing alternative energy technology – solar panels, wind mills, will become to home energy supply what the Internet became to home communications little over 2 decades ago!

You can well imagine what kind of serious negative effect this will have on our energy producing company. No wonder that our local company wants to provide the alternative energy product for us,

rather than have you provide your own!

Well, as we say in Dutch,... "dat gunnen wij je ook!" Meaning, there could be no objection to this, we will allow it. Our local energy producer should explore ways to leverage micro generation to their own advantage and open new markets to keep the company viable. Provided, of course, they do this at affordable prices for the consumer!

My recent research revealed that the price of imported solar panels and wind turbines by local Aruban companies are still outrageously high and way above the budget of the average person living here. Ironically, the very people, who make up about 55% of the work force here, who most need help with their high energy bills, will never be able to purchase solar panels or a wind turbine from local companies at the going prices! Many smart people are searching the web for cheaper prices. There are many less expensive reputable companies with solid guarantees on the Net selling solar panels and wind mills! I would be happy to provide you a

list of the names of cheaper companies on the internet. Notwithstanding, I wholeheartedly believe in supporting our own local companies... but they have to do much better with their exorbitant prices. My advice to the local companies selling solar panels and other alternative energy sources is to begin slashing your prices on these devices or you could find yourselves losing market share...because we WILL buy our supplies on the internet!

Aruba has one of the best climates for either or both solar panels and wind turbines. And, it is only a matter of time; I predict with the speed of the developments, within 6 years or less that almost every household will be independently producing their own energy. Let's all go green and save big time!!

Give me your feedback or any queries: [tonygreen.morningnews@hotmail.com](mailto:tonygreen.morningnews@hotmail.com) thanks.

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## Interval Int'l. recognizes Aruba-based resorts

Continued from page 2

Since its inception, the Foundation has awarded US\$1.5 million in scholarships and grants to applicants who demonstrate a strong commitment to the hotel and tourism industry.

As a strategic partner of CHTA and a board member of the Caribbean Tourism Organization's Education Foundation, Interval is committed to understanding the unique needs of the Caribbean region and providing products and programs tailored to this market.

Interval International operates membership programs for vacationers and provides value-added services to its developer clients worldwide.

Based in Miami, Florida, the company has been a pioneer and innovator in serving the vacation ownership market since 1976. Today, Interval has an exchange network of approximately 2,700 resorts in more than 75 nations. Through offices in 15 countries, Interval offers high-quality products and benefits to resort clients and about 2 million families who are enrolled in various membership programs. Interval is an operating business of Interval Leisure Group, Inc. (Nasdaq: IILG), a leading global provider of membership and leisure services to the vacation industry.



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## Subway “Perde y Gana” 5 narrows down the field



**Osman Toppenberg lost 13 kilos**

Subway sandwich shop's program of promoting healthy lifestyles continues with the 5th edition of “Perde y Gana” (Lose & Win) a twelve-week program to encourage islanders to eat healthy and exercise, while reaping substantial rewards.

On Sunday morning, those



**Zumba Coach Yurga de Cuba models the yellow shirt**

entrants of the original 150 remaining after six weeks of diet and organized exercise programs showed up at the Subway in the Alhambra Mall for their weigh-in and the elimination process to whittle down the finalists to two team of ten each.

Subway representative Tai Foo Lee explained that participants would receive tee shirts of either yellow or green, to designate their team affiliation.

Program Director and local fitness guru Rene Wild explained that for the final six weeks, entrants will work together as a team as well as trying to attain their individual weight-loss goals, which will facilitate the process.

During this time they will also receive free psychological testing and counseling, to help them reconcile with a new body image, as well as assist them in maintaining the new lifestyle, rather than treat it as a short term goal.



**Subway Rep Tai Foo Lee shows off the green**

Prizes for the contest include 500 Aruban florins (\$275) cash for each member of the team that loses the most weight, with the top “losing” male and female contestant winning 2,500 florins each. Top prize winners will also receive free one-year membership at Healthy Living Gym, a year of Mission workout classes with Rene Wild and a year of Zumba with instructor Yurga de Cuba.

The first to weigh-in is likely a shoo-in for a top prize: Osman Toppenberg is very de-



**Program director and fitness guru Rene Wild**

termined and it shows, he shed a remarkable 13 kilos, (28.6) pounds, in the first 6 weeks. He reports he works out every morning, and as the contest requires he eat at Subway, he usually selects one of their low-fat wraps, which come cut in two pieces. He consumes one and saves the other for later, as he finds eating five or six very small meals throughout the day has proven quite effective.

by Rosalie Klein



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## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

### UN Council condemns Syria over massacre

UNITED NATIONS (AFP) - The UN Security Council yesterday condemned "in the strongest possible terms" the Syrian government for the Houla massacre in which at least 108 people were killed.

A statement agreed by the 15-nation council, including Syrian ally Russia, said the attacks "involved a series of government artillery and tank shellings on a residential neighborhood" and again demanded that President Bashar al-Assad withdraw heavy weapons from Syrian towns.

"The members of the Security Council reiterated that all violence in all its forms by all parties must cease. Those re-

sponsible for acts of violence must be held accountable," said the statement.

UN observers in Syria saw at least 108 bodies in Houla including 49 children and at least seven women, UN officials said.

Britain's UN ambassador Mark Lyall-Grant said that the council statement, while important, was not enough.

"Over the next two days, the Security Council will be meeting again to discuss in more detail what steps need to be taken," Lyall Grant told reporters.

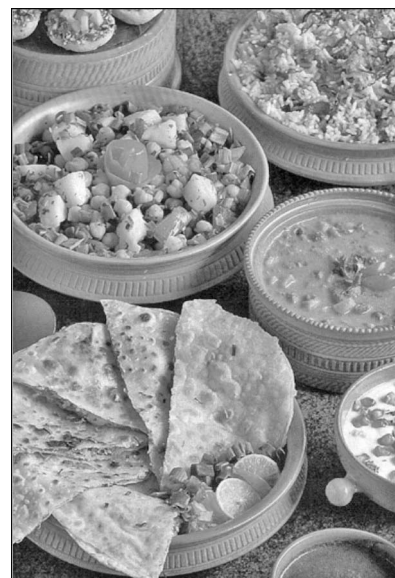
UN-Arab League special envoy Kofi Annan is to brief the Security Council on the

Syria crisis at a new meeting on Wednesday.

Syrian authorities yesterday denied their forces carried out the killing in the central town of Houla, ahead of a visit by peace envoy Kofi Annan.

The regime was "not at all" to blame for the massacre in Houla, central Homs province, that sparked an international outcry, foreign ministry spokesman al-Makdissi insisted.

Blaming "terrorists" for the killings on Friday and Saturday, the spokesman said the government had opened an investigation, whose results would be out within three days.



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### UN fears spread of Machu Picchu town



LIMA (AFP) - The UN's cultural arm UNESCO is calling for emergency measures to prevent the town that feeds tourists to Peru's archeological marvel Machu Picchu from becoming overrun.

The 15th century Incan city is perched on a mountain high above the town of Aguas Caliente, which has seen a boom in hotels and restaurants to accommodate an ever-growing number of visitors.

"The authorities charged with protecting the archeological site of Machu Picchu, lo-

cated in the Cusco region, must take rigorous emergency measures to counter the growing disorganization of Aguas Calientes," Nuria Sanz, the head of UNESCO for Latin America and the Caribbean, said during a mission to Peru this week.

The incredible stone ruins at Machu Picchu, which means "old peak" in the pan-Andean native language Quechua, are located 2,400 meters (7,900 feet) above sea level in a remote part of the southeastern region of Cusco.

### Americans honor troops for Memorial Day



American Robert Dryfoos, left, from Conn., with Khalil Diallo walks around layers of tombs after attending Memorial Day rites at the American Cemetery in suburban Taguig, south of Manila, Philippines on Sunday May 27, 2012. The cemetery site contains the largest number of U.S. military dead of World War II.



Graduates of The United States Military Academy throw up their hats at the end of the commencement ceremony in West Point, New York on May 26, 2012. US Vice President Joe Biden addressed the approximate 1,000 members of the Class of 2012 to receive Bachelor of Science degrees and be commissioned as second lieutenants in the US Army.



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**TUESDAY AND FRIDAY: LIVE MUSIC**

## 'Love' conquers all in Cannes



Austrian director Michael Haneke (C), French actress Emmanuelle Riva (L) and French actor Jean-Louis Trintignant pose during a photocall after being awarded with the Palme d'Or for the film *Amour*

CANNES, France (AFP) - "Love", the wrenching tale of an elderly Parisian caring for his dying wife, scooped top prize in Cannes on Sunday, handing a second Palme d'Or in three years to Austria's Michael Haneke.

Confirming Haneke's status as arguably the most important film director working in Europe, the jury headed by Italian director Nanni Moretti crowned his latest film above 21 others racing for Cannes Film Festival's top award.

Haneke's octogenarian actors, French screen icon Jean-Louis Trintignant, 81, and Emmanuelle Riva, 85, bowled Cannes over in the story of Georges and Anne, an adoring couple whose bond is tested after she suffers a stroke.

Hailed as a "masterpiece" by critics, and the hands-down favourite to win, the French-language "Love" marked a journey into tender new territory for a director better known for exposing the icy secrets of the soul.

The director's sober camera chronicles the intimacy of Anne's physical and mental decline, the crushing efforts required of ageing Georges to help her stand, wash or eat, fulfilling a pledge to care for her at home until the end.

Both actors climbed on stage at the star-studded gala in the Riviera city to accept the award with Haneke, who dedicated it to his wife of 30 years.

"This film is an illustration of the promise we made to each other, if either one of us finds ourselves in the situation that is described in the film," the 70-year-old director told the audience.

Speaking for the rest of the jury, the designer Jean-Paul Gaultier said Riva and Trintignant had delivered "the greatest emotion of all the movies we saw."

"I must say that I cried a lot, I was choking. But I love to be hurt in that way. It was fabulous, very poetic and absolutely admirable."

Haneke took the Palme d'Or three years ago for a very different work, "The White Ribbon" a black-and-white study of malice in a German village on the eve of World War I, which some saw as a parable on the roots of Nazi savagery.

He now joins a highly select club of two-time laureates, including US director Francis Ford Coppola, Denmark's Bille August, Serbia's Emir Kusturica, Japan's Shohei Imamura and the Belgian brothers Jean-Pierre and

Luc Dardenne.

Cannes' best actor award went to Danish heart-throb Mads Mikkelsen, searing as a man falsely accused of molesting a child in the psychological thriller "The Hunt" by Thomas Vinterberg.

Two young Romanians, Cosmina Stratan and Cristina Flutur, shared the best actress prize for their roles in Cristian Mungiu's "Beyond the Hills", about a young nun and her friend who falls victim to a deadly "exorcism".

Mexican Carlos Reygadas took best director prize for the puzzling family drama "Post Tenebras Lux", whose Latin title means "after darkness, light" and derives from the biblical Book of Job.

The Cannes jury said the film -- which baffled festivalgoers -- had divided them as well, but its defenders won out in the end.

"It is full of the fragility of life, the vulnerability of life, full of tenderness," said British film-maker and juror Andrea Arnold, while Haitian director Raoul Peck said he had "rarely seen such powerful images".

## IMF chief sparks Facebook war by Greeks

ATHENS (AFP) - Greek web users waged Facebook war against IMF head Christine Lagarde on Sunday after she accused their countrymen of dodging taxes.

The French managing director of the International Monetary Fund received more than 10,000 messages, many of them obscene, on her page on the online social network -- where her postings typically draw a couple of hundred comments.

By late Sunday afternoon a separate Facebook page had sprung up titled "Greeks are against Lagarde".

Its creators described it as "the page through which to show displeasure as a nation

towards Lagarde!", with a picture of the IMF chief.

Greeks accused Lagarde on her page of belittling their suffering in an economic crisis that has seen salaries and pensions cut, in a recession now in its fifth year.

Lagarde told Britain's Guardian newspaper in an interview published Friday that Greeks must "help themselves" by all paying taxes, saying she was more concerned about Africans in poverty than Greeks in the economic crisis.

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## *A constellation of stellar personalities light up the nights of the Soul Beach Music Festival*



**Aruba All stars Roger Peterson and Hildward Croes**



**Ledisi**



**The laughs keep coming**



**LL Cool J**



**Tony Roberts mugs makes a point**

Memorial Day weekend is a soulful experience on Aruba, as the Soul Beach Music Festival again takes over Surfside Beach and other venues for exciting parties, concerts and media encounters broadcast worldwide.

Thousands arrived on Aruba to immerse themselves in the Soul Beach experience, many of them asserting they couldn't consider any other way to spend the holiday weekend.


Concerts began on Friday evening, May 25, with headliners Aries Spears, Tony Roberts and Gin Yashere rocking the Aruba Entertainment Center with laughter, ably assisted by MC Rudy Rush and charming young comic Chase Anthony. The jokes kept coming, with humorous look at anything from toilet training your child to hazarding a flight with Nigerian Airlines, both equally daunting tasks.

Saturday night switched to the Surfside Beach and the soulful sounds of Ledisi, who had the crowd jumping one moment, or cuddling with the companion the next, as she performed her vast repertoire.



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## A constellation of stellar personalities light up the nights of the Soul Beach Music Festival



**MC Rudy Rush**



**SBMF PR guru Donna Adkins with up and coming comedian Chase**



The audience has been amply warmed up by a special performance by a new group consisting of Aruban musicians and vocalists who have achieved international renown; Lead Singer Roger Peterson mixed it up with some of the island's best musicians, including Hildward Croes, who spent over ten years touring with Juan Luis Guerra and Chi Chi Peralta. They delivered an original mix of music rooted in the Caribbean.

Dynamic LL Cool J rounded out the first two concerts with a heart pounding performance of his hip-hop commentary, turning it smooth and sexy just for the ladies by the end of his show.

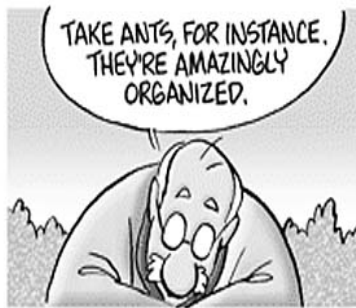
Everyone who came to Aruba for the holiday weekend and the festival was feeling the vibes of friends, fun and funk in paradise.

*by Rosalie Klein*





## COMICS



## CROSSWORD



## CROSSWORD

## ACROSS

1. Not Reps. or Inds.
5. Weeps
9. Conceit
12. Slangy agreement
13. Make a sweater
14. Director Howard
15. She (Fr.)
16. Actress Skye
17. Retirement acct.
18. Suffix for a doctrine
20. Exclamation
22. Supports
25. Actress Lanchester
27. Wanted poster inits.
28. 1916 Lopez hit
30. "\_\_\_ Smile Be Your Umbrella" (2 wds.)
34. Merry tune
36. Movie-at-home format (abbr.)
37. Demon's delight
38. Data, informally
39. Kind of brake
41. Historic time
42. First Lady Truman
44. Seaside sights
46. Bird sound
48. \_\_\_ Wednesday
49. Type
50. The \_\_\_ of March
53. Bank

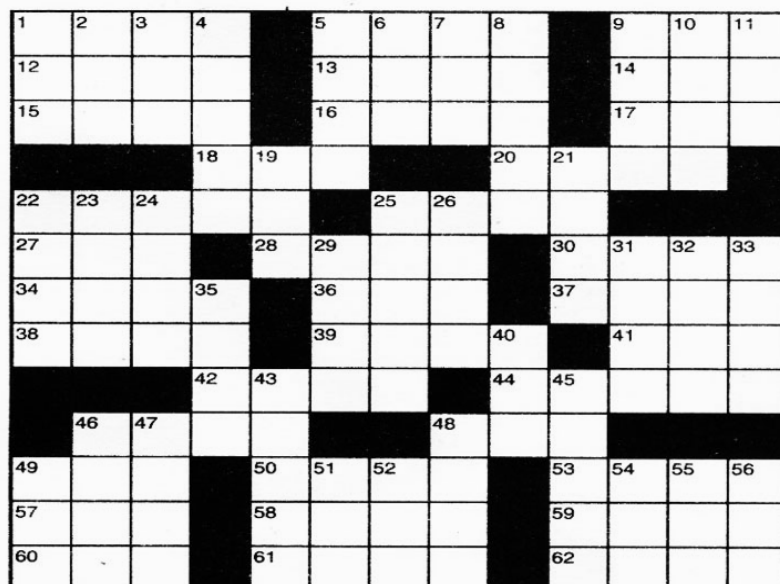
57. Gypsy Rose
58. Narrow beds
59. Prod
60. "Viva \_\_\_ Vegas"
61. Musical chairs quest
62. Green bean

## DOWN

1. Coloring fluid
2. "Electric" swimmer
3. Bad (prefix)
4. Arab chieftain
5. Read hastily
6. Yoko \_\_\_
7. Storage crib
8. Simmers
9. Great Lake
10. Graphic violence
11. Go out \_\_\_ limb (2 wds.)
19. Social Security no.
21. Patriot Nathan
22. Indonesian island
23. Related (to)
24. Leg area
25. Singer Presley
26. Young boys
29. Ten to one, e.g.
31. \_\_\_-steven
32. Goodyear product
33. Melancholy

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35. "It Had \_\_\_ You" (2 wds.)
40. LP alternatives
43. Sagas
45. Moving aid (hyph.)
46. \_\_\_ bargain
47. \_\_\_ out (supplements)
48. Helper (abbr.)
49. "\_\_\_ Cry Tomorrow"
51. Stag's mate
52. Airport inits.
54. Three (prefix)
55. Film company letters
56. Red or Coral

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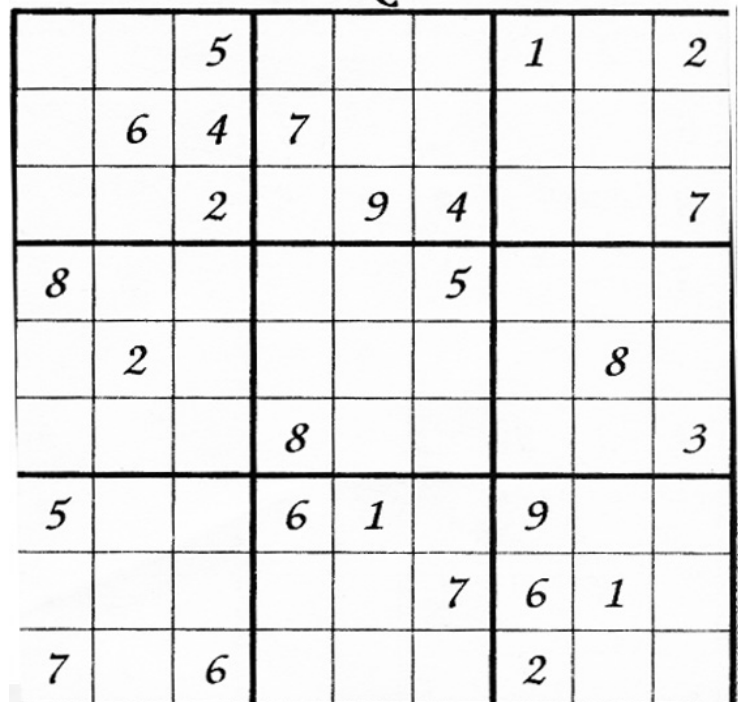
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## Sudoku




SOLUTION

4	5	2	8	5	6	9	1	7
5	1	9	7	4	8	6	2	3
8	7	6	2	1	9	5	4	3
6	2	7	8	5	4	1	9	3
9	8	5	4	2	1	6	7	3
1	6	4	5	9	2	7	8	3
7	9	8	1	6	5	2	4	3
6	5	8	1	7	2	4	9	3
2	4	1	9	8	5	7	6	3

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9  
A number is Never repeated in a row or column.  
In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9





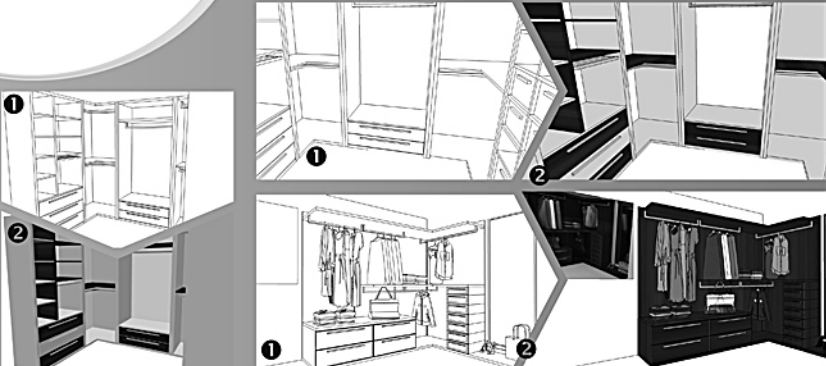

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## Report: Ex-PM warns Greece risks running out of cash by June

ATHENS (AFP) - Former Greek prime minister Lucas Papademos warned Greece may run out of money by the end of June if international bailout funds are cut off following next month's election, a newspaper reported yesterday.

"From late June onwards, the ability of the government to fund its obligations fully depends on the approval of the subsequent installments of loans from the EFSF and the IMF," To Vima newspaper quoted Papademos as saying in a leaked memo.

"The available funds in the Greek government will be reduced gradually from about 3.8 billion euros on May 11 to about 700 million euros on June 18 and from June 20 will enter negative territory at the level of around one billion euros."

Centre-left To Vima said Papademos made the warning in a memo to President Carlos Papoulias dated May 11 that was then circulated to party leaders as they tried to form a coalition after an inconclusive May 6 vote.

Greece in 2010 committed itself to a reform program in return for hundreds of billions of euros (dollars) in bailout funds from the the European Union bailout fund EFSF and the International Monetary Fund.

On May 6 voters weary with salary cuts and other austerity measures handed second place to radical left-wing party Syriza, which has threatened to renege on the bailout accords.

If Greece broke the terms of the deal and forfeited its bailout funds, it would likely default on its debts and may leave the eurozone.

Ahead of a new election on June 17, Syriza has led at times in the opinion polls, but a series of polls published yesterday indicated conservative party New Democracy was favourite to win.

The new surveys by five separate polling groups predict a New Democracy victory ranging between 23.3 percent and 25.8 percent, a result that would still require the party to seek additional allies to form a viable government.

## US facing a \$7tr time bomb

WASHINGTON -- US lawmakers must take steps to address \$7 trillion in "economic events" next year or the economy may go into recession, the co-chairmen of President Barack Obama's fiscal commission said on CNN.

Automatic tax changes and cutbacks to federal spending mandated by Congress as part of last year's agreement to raise the federal debt limit may affect as much as 2 percent of the US gross domestic product next year, co-chairman Erskine Bowles said.

Economic events occurring next year include the expiration of tax cuts instituted by former president George W. Bush and changes to the Alternative Minimum Tax and payroll tax deductions.


The automatic spending cuts, mandated by Congress as part of an agreement last year to raise the federal debt limit, are "senseless, mindless", said Bowles, who was chief of staff to former president Bill Clinton, a Democrat. "If we have a negative effect on 2 percent of GDP, we'll be right back in recession," he added.

A report issued last week by the Congressional Budget Office said the US was approaching a "fiscal cliff" that may lead to recession without action by federal lawmakers.

Without congressional action, increased inflation and interest rates will hurt the middle class, said former representative Alan Simpson, a Wyoming Republican and co-chairman of the committee. "You know who will get hurt the worst when interest rates go up and inflation kicks in? The little guy," Simpson said in the interview, broadcast yesterday.

The Simpson-Bowles plan issued by Obama's fiscal commission advocated a series of spending cuts and tax increases to balance the budget. The plan was never adopted nor openly endorsed by the president.

The House voted down the plan, with Republicans saying it had too many tax increases and not enough spending cuts.



### Daily Exchange Rates

Current as of: 05/25/2012

Currency Code	Buying rate banknotes	Buying Cheques	Selling Rate
U.S.A. USD	1.77	1.78	1.80
Dutch Antilles ANG	0.98	1.00	1.002
Canada CAD	1.710	1.730	1.750
Britain GBP	2.730	2.780	2.840
Switzerland CHF	1.8581	1.8653	1.8733
Netherlands EUR	2.2143	2.2345	2.2570
Sweden SEK	0.2385	0.2457	0.2537
Denmark DKK	0.2910	0.2982	0.3062
Norway NOK	0.2862	0.2934	0.3014
Japan JPY	222.87	233.90	226.15

(per 10,000)

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## Finance

### Switzerland draws up euro-zone collapse action plan

GENEVA (AFP) - Switzerland does not foresee a break-up of the eurozone but is nonetheless drawing up an action plan in the event of its collapse, the country's central bank chief said yesterday.

Thomas Jordan, who became chairman of the Swiss National Bank (SNB) last month, told the SonntagsZeitung newspaper that a working group was discussing measures to combat any strengthening of the safe haven Swiss currency. The bank intervened in September to stem the rise of the Swiss franc which had soared as investors sought a secure place for their cash, hurting Swiss exports and the tourism industry.

Jordan said the eurozone crisis had worsened in recent weeks and he foresees bumpy times ahead.

"The working group is focussing mainly on instruments to combat a strengthening of the franc," said Jordan. "We have to be prepared for the scenario of a currency union collapse, although I don't think that will happen."

"One measure would be capital controls, that's to say controls directly influencing the flood of capital into Switzerland," he said, declining to give further details.

Jordan said the bank would defend its exchange rate floor against the euro of 1.20 francs. It closed at 1.2014 on Friday.

The SNB has consistently said it will enforce the minimum rate and is prepared to buy unlimited quantities of foreign currencies if necessary.

The cap was introduced after the franc posted a sharp gain in value last year, going from 1.23 to the euro at the beginning of July to less than 1.05 a month later.

"Maintaining the minimum price is the monetary policy that we will continue with determination for the foreseeable future," Jordan said.

The euro had extended its slide against the dollar Friday, dipping below \$1.25, under pressure from uncertainty over the future of Greece in the eurozone, and the risk of contagion from its debt crisis.

Jordan succeeded former bank head Philipp Hildebrand who quit in January over a controversial dollar trade by his wife.

### SATURDAY'S Crossword Answer

A	H	A	B	S	E	E	P	G	I	G
B	A	L	E	A	G	U	A	R	A	E
E	L	S	A	P	O	R	T	L	A	N
				R	O	S	S	T	I	P
S	T	U	D	S		G	I	V	E	R
W	A	N		L	P	G	A	E	V	E
A	N	D		O	L	I	V	E	I	R
N	Y	E	T		U	S	E	D	N	U
S	A	R	O	N	G		G	L	E	N
				W	W	I		A	S	E
C	R	E	S	C	E	N	T		P	I
P	E	A		K	A	T	E		U	S
A	P	R		S	U	E	T		P	A



## Lady Gaga Indonesia concert off after threats

JAKARTA (AFP) - Pop diva Lady Gaga on Sunday cancelled her Indonesian concert with promoters saying the security threat was too serious after Islamic hardliners promised "chaos" if she entered the Muslim nation.

The promoters had indicated that a deal was being hammered out to tone down the June 3 concert in Jakarta, but the US star's management stood firm, vowing there would be no compromise to appease religious conservatives.

"We had to cancel the concert in Indonesia," Lady Gaga confirmed on Twitter, where she has nearly 25 million followers, more than anyone else on the social networking site.

"I'm so very sorry to the fans & just as devastated as you if not more. You are everything to me."

Earlier this month, Jakarta police refused approval for the show after the Islamic Defenders Front (FPI) threatened violence if Lady Gaga performed, calling her a "devil's messenger" who wears only a "bra and panties".

More than 50,000 tickets had been sold for the event.

Lady Gaga is scheduled to play three shows in Singapore this week. She was due to play in Jakarta after that, before flying to New Zealand and Australia, and then to Europe on her "Born This Way Ball" tour.

## US actress Andie MacDowell talks beauty



You wouldn't think that Andie MacDowell would have confidence problems. But the US actress and longtime face of cosmetic giant L'Oreal insists she is like any other woman getting older.

The 54-year-old star, latest film is "Mighty Fine."

MacDowell, film roles includes "Four Weddings and a Funeral" and "Sex, Lies and Videotape."

Macdowell, who has been the face of L'Oreal for 25 years, still blushes when reminded that People magazine named her among the 50 most beautiful women in the world

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## Sweden euphoric after fifth Eurovision win



STOCKHOLM (AFP) - Swedes were euphoric on Sunday after singer Loreen clinched the country's fifth Eurovision crown, beating rivals including a group of Russian grannies in the glitzy annual song contest.

Favourite Loreen wowed voters with her catchy

techno-pop number "Euphoria", crushing the competition as she notched up the maximum 12 points from judge after judge.

Russia's singing grannies had to content themselves

with second place but won the hearts of millions, including President Vladimir Putin who on Sunday sent his congratulations and promised to pay a visit to their village soon.

Loreen's victory was the fifth for Sweden and followed in the footsteps of its most famous band Abba who won the contest in 1974 with "Waterloo" -- for many the song that defined the kitschy contest for all time.

"It's just a question of taste. This year it happened to me," was how Loreen, whose real name is Lorine Zineb Noka Talhaoui, modestly explained her victory with 372 points.

Pictures of the 28-year-old daughter of Berber immigrants from Morocco draped in her country's yellow and blue flag were splashed across newspapers in Scandinavia on Sunday..

The Russian grannies, a choir of elderly village women aged up to 76 who performed a disco song "Party for Everybody" in English and their local Finno-Ugric language, were delighted to be runners-up.

"There are tears of joy. The Babushki are so happy with their success," band administrator Maria Tolstukhina.

## Women on the rise in Mexican drug cartels

MEXICO CITY (AFP) - The high mortality rate in Mexico's drug war has seen women progress quickly in the shadowy underworld of the cartels and they are increasingly taking on key management roles, a new book says.

"Female Bosses of Narco-Traffic," by Arturo Santamaria, a researcher at the Autonomous University of the State of Sinaloa, traces the ascent of women in drug trafficking organizations.

"The narco-traffickers will become stronger as a result of this," wrote Santamaria. "They will be more difficult to fight because the women appear to be acting smarter."

An estimated 50,000 people have been killed since 2006 in a government crackdown on organized crime that has set off turf wars among rival groups even as they fight off the Mexican military's counter-narcotics units.

Santamaria said the dead have been mainly males belonging to the cartels, which has led to a changing of the guard with younger men and women rising to the top of drug trafficking organizations.

"Widows, daughters, lovers and girlfriends of the men, who are part of the same criminal families," have had to lend a hand, he said.

Interviews with researchers and journalists reproduced in the book tell their story.

"After they killed my father, my brother remained," recalls one of these women. "But he was gunned down in the most recent shootout, and

now I have taken the reins."

In the northwestern state of Sinaloa, Mexico's main poppy and marijuana producing region and home to leading drug lords, many young women grew up around the business.

"They absorbed it from the time they were girls. They know what it is and how it works," said Santamaria.

Women were initially recruited into the business to extract juice from poppy, a delicate process requiring gentle handling.

"After that, they started transporting drugs, laundering money and engaging in so-called narco-diplomacy," using their charms to corrupt government or police officials, said Santamaria.

"Later, they started getting involved in operations," he said.

They learned how to manage people, run operations and move money, skills that ultimately prepared them to take over entire operations.

As of October last year, 46 female cartel leaders have been arrested by Mexican authorities, according to the country's attorney general's office.

In the United States, 2,143 Mexican women have been arrested over the past decade for involvement in drug trafficking.

Santamaria said women act with more caution and use deadly force more sparingly than men.

"Maybe this is because they are mothers and have children," argued the researcher, while cautioning that younger women were apt to be as bloodthirsty as men.



## Gold Coast Aruba: Great savings for large families on holiday rentals



Aruba's newest and most innovative gated community has enjoyed steady sales since breaking ground, as many are finding the secure surroundings and outstanding amenities are just what they were looking for before considering purchasing property on the island. Some owners are using the villas or town homes as vacation retreats rather than full time and are taking advantage of Gold Coast's rental services to turn their investment into ready income.

"The greater portion of home owners are using their 'home away from home' in Aruba to escape the winter months, or spend holidays with the family on the island," noted Gold Coast developer Fito Croes. To assist in the demand for more complete facilities for groups and families, famed hotelier Ed Malone has been placed in charge of the rental program.

Staying at Gold Coast is a very attractive proposition for those traveling with groups that would require multiple hotel rooms. Two and three bedroom Villas or Town Homes accommodate large numbers and offer extensive amenities along with a final cost resulting in considerable savings. The community is minutes to the best beaches and all the casino action, and offers a quiet and secluded getaway with two swimming pools and specialized services with more on the way, such as a fitness room, tennis courts and mini-mall. Ed can arrange maid service, babysitters, caterers, airline pick-up

and drop-off; they even boast a shopping service to stock your shelves before arrival.

Gold Coast accommodations are elegant and spacious, offering privacy for parents or a few couples.



Beautifully appointed kitchens and bathrooms grace each abode; barbecues and lounges are provided for friendly cookouts and truly savoring the island life. All homes come with cable TV,



high-speed fiber-optic Internet connection, individual washer/dryer, and are fully air-conditioned. Cribs, high chairs and hair dryers are available for a modest fee. Concierge services to arrange

rental cars, spa appointments, activities and restaurant reservations are all part of the package.

Check-in for your holiday escape is conducted in the comfort of your vacation home, not while waiting on line at check-in desk. In every way, Gold Coast seeks to pamper their guests while providing them with the feeling of being in a cozy community, not the normally bustling resort, particularly experienced during the major holidays. If you wish an optimal vacation experience with great savings, visit their website: [www.goldcoastaruba.com](http://www.goldcoastaruba.com) to get acquainted with the community and the layout, details and availability of accommodations, or call 586-2200 to talk personally to a Gold Coast representative.

## Cool Casino... where those in the know go to play!



The great perks of gaming at Cool Casino in the Palm Beach has created a dedicated clientele; ask them what they like about the cozy casino, and they don't know where to start! The free slot tournaments every Sunday? Major pay-offs in their weekly Blackjack tournaments every Tuesday and Friday? Ladies' night every Wednesday with entertainment from great local bands? Or perhaps just the terrific benefits of being

"One Cool Member" which earns players bonus points towards additional activities, free dinners, day passes at the Riu Resort, credit for play, or best of all: hard, cool cash! The casino opens daily at 10:00 AM and on Saturdays and Sundays, all are greeted with an early morning "Kaffie Klatch" and triple points when using their membership cards.

Cool Casino is a great place to learn to understand such table games as Craps

and Roulette, as they offer free instructions and minimums for beginners with which anyone can have fun and feel very comfortable. High-stakes tables and a major weekly blackjack tournament will keep veteran high-rollers happy, as well as periodic special events that attract an international crowd; stop by and check their schedule.

Add to all this free drinks while testing the slots or trying your hand at

the tables, and the opportunity to enjoy exclusive pay-per-view major sporting events at one

of their dozens of plasma screens, and you can understand why loyal patrons find Cool Casino THE fun place to play. Slot machines are open from 10:00 AM until 4:00 AM daily, and gaming tables open at 5:00 PM; ask for their schedule of special events and bonuses, as there are so many choose from, but every day offers something to get the adrenaline flowing!







# EURO 2012 - POLAND - UKRAINE

## June 8 - July 1



## Germany, Netherlands suffer Euro 2012 setbacks



PARIS (AFP) - Germany and the Netherlands, two of the sides widely-tipped as potential Euro 2012 winners, suffered worrying friendly international defeats on Saturday.

Germany slumped to a shock 5-3 defeat in Switzerland while the Dutch were booed off in Amsterdam after surrendering a one-goal lead to lose 2-1 against Bulgaria.

Defending European and world champions Spain, however, showed off their impressive strength in depth when a second-string side defeated Serbia 2-0.

England, meanwhile, gave Roy Hodgson a winning start as new national coach with a hard-fought 1-0 win over Norway in Oslo.

Germany, who rested their eight-strong Bayern Munich

contingent, suffered their first loss to Switzerland, who failed to qualify for Euro 2012, since 1956.

Joachim Loew's Germany qualified for Euro 2012 without losing a match, but they have now lost two friendlies in succession having been defeated 2-1 by France in February.

Their last friendly will be against Israel on May 31 before embarking on their Euro campaign against Portugal, Netherlands and Denmark in Group B.

"After a lot of intensive training sessions, it's clear that we didn't concentrate enough and made a lot of mistakes. The team didn't function, we weren't good today," said Loew.

Netherlands' 2-1 loss to Bulgaria came just four days after they were beaten 3-2 by Bayern Munich.

Robin van Persie had given the Dutch a 45th-minute lead but Bulgaria levelled four minutes into the second half with an Ivelin Popov penalty after a handball by Rafael van der Vaart.

Striker Ilijan Mizanski hit the winner in the second minute of injury time on a counter-attack.

Dutch fans were so frustrated that Bert van Marwijk's team were jeered off at the final whistle.

"The result is disappointing," admitted the coach. "We took a lot of risks at the end of the game and were caught on the counter-attack."

"But that's football and we need to learn the lessons."

With Euro 2012 starting on June 8, Spain coach Vicente del Bosque fielded a host of fringe players with Barcelona and Athletic Bilbao stars having played in Friday's Spanish Cup final.

That left the door open for the likes of Atletico Madrid's Adrian Lopez to state his case, and he didn't disap-

point, heading the world champions into a 64th-minute lead.

Adrian was also instrumental in Spain's second goal 11 minutes later when he earned a penalty after being felled by Serbia captain Branislav Ivanovic, with the spot kick converted by Santi Cazorla.

Spain kick off their Group C campaign against Italy on June 10, followed by the Republic of Ireland on June 14 and wrapping up with Croatia on June 18.

Ireland saw off Bosnia 1-0 in Dublin while Portugal were held 0-0 in Leiria by Macedonia.

Denmark lost 3-1 to a young Brazil side, who are preparing for the London Olympics, in a friendly in Hamburg with Hulk scoring two of the Brazilians' goals.

Elsewhere Saturday, there were wins for tournament co-hosts Poland who beat Slovakia 1-0.

Croatia beat Estonia 3-1, the Czech Republic edged Israel 2-1 while 2004 champions Greece were held 1-1 by Slovenia.

### France chosen to host EURO 2016

France has been selected to host UEFA EURO 2016, the first UEFA European Football Championship final round to feature 24 teams, after a decision in Geneva.

The decision was announced by UEFA president Michel Platini at the Espace Hippomène in Geneva, Switzerland.

Italy were eliminated in the first ballot of UEFA Executive Committee members, meaning France and Turkey entered a second ballot where a simple majority was required to earn the right to stage the tournament in six summers' time. France won by a majority of one from the 13 votes cast.

"For us it is a moment of intense emotions, given that in 2016 we will welcome European football to France. We will fulfil our promises and we thank our friends on the Executive Committee at UEFA. They have put their trust in us and that's what counts for us. This is a beautiful day for us," said French Football Federation (FFF) president Jean-Pierre Escalettes.

## Del Bosque opts for Negredo ahead of Soldado



Negredo

SCHRUNS, Austria (AFP) - Sevilla striker Alvaro Negredo edged Roberto Soldado for the final striker's spot in defending champions Spain's squad for Euro 2012 announced by coach Vicent del Bosque here on Sunday.

Negredo effectively fills the void of Spain's record goalscorer David Villa -- who failed to recover from a broken tibia in time -- after scoring 14 goals in La Liga in the season just finished.

Soldado misses out despite scoring 17 league goals as his form dipped dramatically in the latter stages of the season.

Barcelona's Pedro was rewarded for doing exactly the opposite as his rich vein of form in the latter part of the season -- including a double in Barca's Spanish Cup final win over Athletic Bilbao on Friday -- saw him make the squad.

"Pedro had an inconsistent season like others did," said Del Bosque.

"But we took into account certain aspects of his season. We looked at his season in its entirety."

"And also we need players out wide, wingers who are effective," added del Bosque of the 20102 World Cup winner.

Negredo will compete for places up front with Fernando Torres, who showed glimpses of a return to form for Champions League winners Chelsea at the end of the season, and Athletic Bilbao's Fernando Llorente.

There are just four members of the 2008 squad missing, with Carlos Marchena and Joan Capdevila no longer in favour and talismanic defender Carles Puyol and Villa out because of injuries.

### Squad:

**Goalkeepers:** Iker Casillas (Real Madrid), Jose Reina (Liverpool/ENG), Victor Valdes (Barcelona).

**Defenders:** Juanfran (Atletico Madrid), Alvaro Arbeloa, Raul Albiol, Sergio Ramos (all Real Madrid), Jordi Alba (Valencia), Gerard Pique (Barcelona), Javi Martinez (Athletic Bilbao).

**Midfielders:** Xabi Alonso (Real Madrid), Santi Cazorla (Malaga), Xavi Hernandez, Cesc Fabregas, Andres Iniesta, Sergio Busquets (all Barcelona).

**Forwards:** David Silva (Manchester City/ENG), Jesus Navas, Alvaro Negredo (both Sevilla), Fernando Torres, Juan Mata (both Chelsea/ENG), Pedro (Barcelona), Fernando Llorente (Athletic Bilbao).

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## Scotland's Franchitti wins 96th Indy 500

Continued from pg 16

(AFP)--Franchitti, who also won the fabled race in 2007 and 2010, was followed across the finish line under a caution flag by Chip Ganassi Racing teammate Scott Dixon of New Zealand and Brazil's Tony Kanaan.

"What a race. I think Dan Wheldon would be proud of this one," Franchitti said, dedicating the triumph to the 2011 winner from England who was killed in a crash last October at Las Vegas.

Franchitti, who fell behind

early after his car was struck on pit row, seized the lead from Kanaan on a restart with six laps to go in the 200-lap showdown around the 2.5 mile (4km) Indianapolis Motor Speedway oval.

After Franchitti and Dixon traded the lead over the next few laps, Sato moved past Dixon into second behind the Scotsman with two laps remaining and made his run at the lead in the first turn of the last lap.

Sato, trying to become the first Japanese driver to win an IndyCar race, went low on the inside of the track and side-by-side with Franchitti, but lost control and spun into the outer wall as Franchitti sped away for the victory.

"I moved over and saw he was coming," Franchitti said. "I came back over and he got loose underneath me. I moved over to give him room and just managed to keep it going."

## Tsonga, Del Potro take hard road at French Open

PARIS (AFP) - Jo-Wilfried Tsonga survived the weight of home expectations while danagerman Juan Martin Del Potro shrugged off an injury scare before triumphing on Sunday's sweltering first day at Roland Garros.

French fifth seed Tsonga, the highest-ranked player in action, overcame a worrying first set wobble to beat Russian qualifier Andrey Kuznetsov 1-6, 6-3, 6-2, 6-4.

Ninth seed Del Potro, the Argentine who won the 2009 US Open having made the semi-finals here in the same year, saw off Spanish veteran Albert Montanes 6-2, 6-7 (5/7), 6-2, 6-1 in a shade over three hours.

Andy Roddick slumped to a fifth French Open first round defeat in 10 visits when the injury-plagued American lost 6-3, 6-3, 4-6, 6-2 to France's Nicolas Mahut.

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## MLB Standings

### American League

East	W	L	Pct	GB
BALTIMORE	29	19	.604	--
TAMPA	28	19	.596	0.5
YANKEES	25	21	.543	3.0
TORONTO	24	23	.511	4.5
BOSTON	23	23	.500	5.0

### Central

CLEVELAND	26	20	.565	--
CHICAGO	25	22	.532	1.5
DETROIT	22	24	.478	4.0
KANSAS	19	27	.413	7.0
MINNESOTA	15	31	.326	11

### West

TEXAS	29	18	.617	--
LA ANGELES	23	25	.479	6.5
OAKLAND	22	25	.468	7.0
SEATTLE	21	28	.429	9.0

### National League

East	W	L	Pct	GB
WASHINGTON	28	18	.609	--
NY METS	27	21	.562	2.0
MIAMI	26	22	.542	3.0
ATLANTA	26	22	.542	3.0
PHILADELPHIA	25	24	.510	4.5

### Central

CINCINNATI	27	20	.574	--
ST. LOUIS	26	22	.542	1.5
PITTSBURG	23	24	.489	4.0
HOUSTON	22	24	.478	4.5
MILWAUKEE	19	27	.413	7.5
CHICAGO	15	32	.319	12.0

### West

LA DODGERS	31	15	.674	--
SAN FRANCISCO	25	23	.521	7.0
ARIZONA	21	26	.447	10.5
COLORADO	17	29	.370	14.0
SAN DIEGO	17	32	.347	15.5

x-Clinched Playoff Spot; y-Division Champ

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## With stars on fire, Heat seek return to NBA Finals

MIAMI (AFP) - NBA Most Valuable Player LeBron James and veteran Dwyane Wade are firing on all cylinders as the Miami Heat seek a return to the NBA Finals when they face Boston for the Eastern Conference title.

The Heat closed out the unfancied Indiana Pacers with three straight victories to advance, Wade scoring 41 points in the clinching contest on Thursday.

Last season, the Heat beat the Chicago Bulls in the Eastern Conference final, but fell to Western champs Dallas in six games in the NBA Finals.

Now they're eyeing another shot at the ultimate crown that seemed within their grasp when James joined forces with Wade in Miami two years ago.

The best-of-seven series begins today in Miami, giving the Celtics little time to relax after battling through



**LeBron and James hug after a game**

seven tough games to emerge with a victory over the Philadelphia 76ers on Saturday.

Point guard Rajon Rondo notched his ninth career post-

season "triple-double" in game seven, and will be key to the Celtics' hopes against the Heat.

The winner of the series will face either San Antonio or Oklahoma for the NBA title.

Both Boston and Miami are dealing with key injuries. Heat big man Chris Bosh has a strained abdominal muscle and remains uncertain for the series.

"We have to continue to reinvent ourselves as a basketball team and that would be necessary with Chris here or not, but it's even more paramount now that we continue to improve," Heat coach Erik Spoelstra said. "We continued our last three games. And, yes, we have reinvented ourselves to a degree."

With Bosh out, Spoelstra said, James and Wade "have to give us more".

"They know they have to play at a higher level," he said.

The Celtics are without guard Avery Bradley, a strong defensive presence who is having shoulder surgery.

The Heat and Celtics met in each of the past two post-seasons, Boston ousting Miami in the first round two years ago and Miami triumphing in the second round a year ago.

## Scotland's Franchitti wins 96th Indy 500



INDIANAPOLIS, Indiana (AFP) - Scotland's Dario Franchitti won the 96th Indianapolis 500 on Sunday, taking his third career Indy 500

crown after Japan's Takuma Sato crashed while running beside him on the final lap.

**Continued on pg 15**

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